

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I was visiting veterans at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center with members of the Texas Congressional delegation. I was unavoidably delayed and missed the votes on H.R. 980, the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act (rollcall 633), and H. Res. 547, the resolution providing for consideration of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations for FY 2008 (rollcall 634).

Although H.R. 980, the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act (rollcall 633) passed by a vote of 314–97, and H. Res. 547, the resolution providing for consideration of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations for FY 2008 (rollcall 634) passed by a vote of 232–178, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position. Had I been present I would have voted “yea” on rollcalls 633 and 634.

I would particularly like to express my strong support for H.R. 980, a bill I am proud to have cosponsored. The bill would establish minimum standards for state collective bargaining laws for police officers, firefighters and other public safety officers, including the right to join a union; the right to have their union recognized by their employer; the right to bargain collectively over hours, wages and terms and conditions of employment; a mediation or arbitration process for resolving an impasse in negotiations; and enforcement of contracts through state courts. This legislation would not affect a majority of states because their laws already meet or exceed the minimum standards.

THE GENEROSITY OF IDAHOANS

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary example of the American spirit, the ability for us as individuals and as businesses to give back to the community, support our neighbors, and do for ourselves—without relying on government to do for us.

Last week, the crew of the TV show *Extreme Makeover Home Edition* arrived in Middleton, Idaho. The show travels the country and selects a deserving family for a top-to-bottom remodel. In Idaho, the show's producers picked Ryan and Karia Stockdale.

The Stockdales are a loving couple with four children ages 2 to 6. All four children have an

extremely rare disease that attacks their blood, their lungs and kidneys, and their digestive systems. Because of this disorder, all four children are unable to eat food, and have to be fed through a special tube.

Karia became a stay-at-home mom to tend to the children.

To find a cure for his children, Ryan went back to school full-time studying immunology—in addition to working full-time to support his family.

What's more, the Stockdale home had major problems. The house was not insulated. It had a coal-burning furnace and no air conditioning. The ceiling had a hole. The basement leaked. The water and ventilation systems were bad.

The people of Idaho rallied—sending the Extreme Makeover program more than a thousand emails in support of the Stockdales.

But they didn't stop there. In Idaho, our communities and our citizens place high value on the ability of individuals to make a difference, the power of the private sector. We don't sit back and wait for government to do things for us.

So when Extreme Makeover decided to come to Idaho, the citizens and businesses of my state sent nothing short of an army of volunteers to help give the Stockdales a new home. Corey Barton of CBH Homes led the effort, bringing in competing construction crews to work together to build this 4,000 square foot home.

I wish I could name all the companies that contributed to this cause, but I can't. More than 200 companies pitched in—everything from construction equipment and supplies to bags of ice and beverages.

I wish I could name all of the people who volunteered to do a multitude of tasks—from the framing to running electrical and hanging sheetrock. But I can't. More than three thousand volunteers came out. That's three thousand people working together to build one house for one family.

And the volunteers kept coming as the work got dirtier and more grueling and the temperature reached triple-digits. I'm told that despite the heat and the stress of building a large home in four or five days, the volunteer response was the largest a community has ever given to an Extreme Makeover project. These volunteers finished in a week what it would take government months to accomplish.

I was at the job site on Saturday with my wife, Terry, and here's what we saw: we saw the most enthusiastic, engaged, and excited volunteers we have ever seen. They weren't doing it for the fame or glory; they were not doing it to get a few seconds of time on TV. They were not doing it because some government agency told them to. They were doing it because they wanted to. Many had never met the Stockdales. They didn't have to. They just knew there was a family in need and work to be done. It was up to Idahoans to do it.

This is the home that Idahoans built. Their work goes beyond generous. It is a testament to the American spirit: volunteers giving their

time, experience, and a lot of sweat to help make a beautiful home for a beautiful family. This was a true labor of love. Idahoans should be very proud of what they've done.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF KELVIN WASHINGTON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary public servant and a tremendous leader in his community and state. Williamsburg County Sheriff Kelvin Washington officially becomes President of the South Carolina Sheriff's Association on August 1, 2007, a remarkable achievement for this history-making law enforcer.

Kelvin Washington was born in Hemingway, South Carolina and was reared by his maternal grandmother, the late Thewoflar Washington. He graduated from Hemingway High School, and attended South Carolina State University. Kelvin went on to earn his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from American Intercontinental University. His desire to excel in a law enforcement career led Kelvin to complete the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, the FBI's Carolina Command College, and the National Sheriff's Institute. He is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from Troy University.

In 1990, Kelvin joined the City of Florence Police Department as a patrolman. He quickly rose through the ranks becoming a narcotics agent and an investigator. Just three years later, Kelvin joined the Williamsburg County Sheriff's Office as the Chief Investigator. Soon he was tapped as the Chief Deputy. In 1998, only 8 years after his law enforcement career began, Kelvin Washington was appointed Interim-Sheriff after the retirement of former Sheriff Jack McCrea. The following January, Kelvin Washington was elected Williamsburg County Sheriff making South Carolina history. Sheriff Washington was the youngest African American ever to be elected Sheriff in his home state, and he is currently one of the youngest African American Sheriffs in the nation. His effectiveness on the job and his popularity with county residents led to his reelection in 2000 and 2004.

Sheriff Washington is a member of Bethlehem A.M.E. Church in his hometown of Hemingway. He also holds memberships in the Chavis Masonic Lodge No. 446, the Kingtree Rotary Club, the Palmetto State Law Enforcement Officer's Association, and the South Carolina Sheriff's Association. Sheriff Washington still finds the time to serve as a board member for the Williamsburg County Boys and Girls Club and Williamsburg County Vital Aging. In 2002, he was selected as the Williamsburg County Area Omega Psi Phi Citizen of the Year.

None of these accomplishments could have been achieved without the support of his wife

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of 17 years, the former Patricia McEachin of East Orange, New Jersey, and their three children, Courtney, and twins Kelvin, Jr. and Kelsey.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the achievements of Williamsburg County Sheriff Kelvin Washington. His life is a testament to what one can do if you have a dream and pursue it with all your might. Sheriff Washington truly believes in giving back, and Williamsburg County and the State of South Carolina are certainly the beneficiaries of his commitment, talent and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL EDMUND P.
GIAMBASTIANI, JR.

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity today to honor Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., one of our Nation's stellar military leaders and a constituent of the 23rd Congressional District of New York which I am privileged to represent.

Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr. is retiring after 41 years of service to our Nation, culminating in his service as the seventh Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, our Nation's second highest military officer. A submarine officer and a Canastota native, Admiral Giambastiani entered the U.S. Naval Academy in the summer of 1966 and graduated with leadership distinction in 1970.

The Admiral has been married to Cynthia Johnson of McLean, VA since 1976 and attributes his success in life to her and his parents. Cindy and he have two children, Peter and Catherine. Cindy is a Cornell University graduate and the daughter of a career Air Force officer. She was recently honored by the Secretary of the Navy with her selection as the ship's sponsor for the submarine USS *New Mexico*.

Admiral Giambastiani always kept close ties to his hometown of Canastota and in July 2003, he was honored with the Alumni Achievement Award from the Canastota High School Alumni Association. The Admiral's younger sister, Barbara Bartlett, lives in Cazenovia with her family and is director of New York's Lorenzo State Historic Site.

Admiral Giambastiani's operational assignments have included several in which he was responsible for both demanding at-sea operations and the development of new technologies and experimental processes. Early sea assignments included USS *Puffer* (SSN 652) and USS *Francis Scott Key* (SSBN 657) (BLUE). While assigned to *Puffer*, he was a 1973 winner of the Fleet Commander's Junior Officer Submarine Shiphandling Competition. He commanded submarine *NR-1*, the Navy's only nuclear powered deep diving ocean engineering and research submarine and USS *Richard B. Russell* (SSN 687), where the crew was awarded three consecutive Battle Efficiency "E"s, three Navy Unit Commendations, and two Fleet Commander Silver Anchors for excellence in enlisted retention.

Admiral Giambastiani also led Submarine Development Squadron Twelve, an operational submarine squadron that also serves

as the Navy's Warfare Center of Excellence for submarine doctrine and tactics. Established in 1949, Submarine Development Squadron Twelve is the oldest experimental unit of its kind in the U.S. military. He served as the first director of strategy and concepts at the Naval Doctrine Command, as well as Commander, Atlantic Fleet Submarine Force; Commander, Submarines Allied Command Atlantic; and Commander, Anti-Submarine and Reconnaissance Forces Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia.

Admiral Giambastiani's other shore and staff assignments include duties as an enlisted program manager at the Navy Recruiting Command Headquarters, Washington, DC, in the early days of the all volunteer force; Special Assistant to the Deputy Director for Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency; and, a fellowship with the Chief of Naval Operations' Strategic Studies Group. As a flag officer, he served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Resources, Warfare Requirements and Assessments for the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Director of Submarine Warfare for the Chief of Naval Operations; Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Resources, Requirements, and Assessments; and as the Senior Military Assistant to Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld from May 2001 until September 2002.

Admiral Giambastiani was on duty in the Pentagon on September 11, 2001 and will never forget those events that changed our Nation forever.

Prior to serving as Vice Chairman, Admiral Giambastiani was NATO's first Supreme Allied Commander Transformation and the Commander, United States Joint Forces Command, where he led the transformation of NATO and U.S. military forces, capabilities and doctrines and the introduction of new technologies.

As Vice Chairman, Admiral Giambastiani has pursued three overarching and interlocking goals:

Working with the Deputy Secretary of Defense and other senior defense leaders to draft and implement the 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review;

Synchronizing the efforts of the Department of Defense's requirements, resources and acquisition processes to deliver the right capabilities at the right time and the right price to our warfighters; and,

Transforming the Joint Requirements Oversight Council to make it more agile, transparent, inclusive and responsive to the capability needs of the Combatant Commanders and more focused on the nation's most pressing military issues.

Admiral Giambastiani has been awarded numerous U.S. and foreign decorations, including seven Defense and Navy Distinguished Service medals and two honorary doctorate degrees. He is most proud of his 19 unit awards and commendations because they recognize the participation and accomplishments of the entire team.

Madam Speaker, it is through the commitment and sacrifice of Americans like Admiral Giambastiani that our Nation is able to continue upon the path of democracy and strive for the betterment of mankind throughout the world. It is with sincere admiration and appreciation that I pay tribute to Admiral Giambastiani for all that he has accomplished for America and its Armed Forces. On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank Admiral

Giambastiani for his 41 years of dedicated service and wish him many years of continued success and happiness.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
DR. WILLIAM WULF, PRESIDENT
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF
ENGINEERING

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, at the end of last month, Dr. William Wulf ended his 11 years as the President of the National Academy of Engineering.

Many of us have come to rely on the NAE, along with its affiliated organizations, the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine, to help sort through the increasing science and technology quotient in our policy debates.

Bill has been extremely effective in helping Members of Congress understand how technical issues affect our lives. He was instrumental in the National Academy work *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*, which caught the attention of America about students' and workers' declining ability to compete internationally. He was among the first to warn of the increased need for cybersecurity, which everyone is talking about now, but Bill Wulf was realizing 10 years ago. He also worked on data copyright issues, patents, energy legislation—the list goes on. He also has shown great interest in deploying reliable voting machines around the country.

Bill Wulf was a frequent resource at committee hearings, where he taught many in the research community about the value of skillful communications with policy makers. He has led the NAE with grace and with vision and the organization emerges from his period of leadership strengthened and invigorated.

Bill is heading back to his faculty post at the University of Virginia, where many fortunate students, both in engineering and in the liberal arts, will now get the benefit of his thinking that has been so helpful to us here in Washington.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Bill Wulf for all he has done for the Academies and for the Nation. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the years to come.

RESPONSIBLE REDEPLOYMENT
FROM IRAQ ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2956, the Responsible Redeployment from Iraq Act. This legislation requires a responsible redeployment of U.S. troops beginning within 120 days of enactment and ending by April 1, 2008. Additionally, this bill requires the President to publicly justify the post-redeployment missions for the U.S. military in Iraq and the minimum